IN THE CLAIMS:

None of the claims have been amended herein. For convenience to the Examiner, the current status of the claims is as follows:

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method for processing physical distribution information, said method comprising:

receiving and registering schedule information from a customer member, corresponding to availability status information of the customer member for receiving a package addressed to the customer member, the schedule information comprising availability status information of the customer member for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period;

receiving a shipment request from a sender of a package;

determining a delivery form relating to said shipment request with reference to the registered schedule information of the customer member; and

generating delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the determined delivery form, when the determined delivery form involves a movement of the package, and

wherein said receiving and registering schedule information is carried out asynchronously with said determining and is carried out without relationship with a specific shipment request.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

registering scheduled delivery information in the schedule information of the customer member.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

sending the distributor, information regarding the determined delivery form before starting to deliver the package.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a delivery completion notice comprising receiving status data from the distributor.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 4, further comprising:

giving the customer member receiving the package a predetermined point to reward a

correct registration of the schedule information of the customer member receiving the package when the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates the delivery has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the determined delivery form.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 4, further comprising:
giving the customer member receiving the package a predetermined point to reward a correct registration of the schedule information of the customer member receiving the package when the determined delivery form indicates that delivery to a home of the customer member receiving the package and the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicate that receiving has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the determined delivery form.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
receiving and registering information regarding a fixed delivery charge from the distributor after the package is received by the distributor.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the determined delivery form is determined as that of undeliverable.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
sending the sender of the package a notice comprising information regarding a deliverable date when the determined delivery form is that of undeliverable.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
giving the customer member receiving the package a predetermined point to reward a correct registration of the schedule information of the customer member receiving the package when the determined delivery form is that of forwarding or keeping the package.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising generating delivery request information addressed to the distributor using forwarding destination information or keeping place information registered by the customer member in advance, when the determined delivery form is that of forwarding or keeping the package.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

receiving and registering information of a specified customer member from the customer member, the specified customer member being different from the customer member, and

wherein when the customer member to receive the package is not available for receiving and the specified customer member is registered by the customer member, to receive the package on behalf of the customer member, the schedule information for the specified customer member is referenced.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

when a delivery request to a non-member, who is to receive the package, is received from a sender of said package, registering information of the non-member included in the delivery request as provisional customer member information;

sending a customer member registration request to the non-member; and

sending information registered as the provisional customer member information to the non-member when membership registration is requested from the non-member.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said the schedule information is received as a predetermined template selection instruction from the customer member.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said determining of a delivery form comprises sending a schedule input request to the customer member receiving the package when the schedule information of the customer member indicates the schedule information is not fixed.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said determining a delivery form comprises sending the sender a notice indicating scheduling in progress.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method for processing physical distribution requests, said method comprising:

sending a delivery request of a package to a central server, the delivery request specifying at least a receiver of the package; and

receiving a result notice of delivery scheduling comprising information that the package is undeliverable, from the central server that determined the delivery scheduling based on at least schedule information, which has been registered by the receiver asynchronously with said delivery scheduling and without relationship with said delivery request, and which comprises a time range that the receiver is unavailable for receiving packages, before starting to deliver the package.

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method of processing physical distribution information performed by a computer, the method comprising:

receiving schedule information corresponding to availability status information of a customer member for receiving a package addressed to the customer member, from a terminal of the customer member, and registering the schedule information in a storage device, the schedule information comprising availability status information of the customer member for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period;

receiving a shipment request from a terminal of a sender of a package;

determining a delivery form relating to said shipment request with reference to the schedule information of the customer member as stored in the storage device; and

generating delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the determined delivery form, when the determined delivery form involves a movement of the package, and

wherein said receiving schedule information is carried out asynchronously with said determining and is carried out without relationship with a specific shipment request.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

registering scheduled delivery information in the schedule information of the customer member when the determined delivery form involves a movement of the package.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

sending the distributor information regarding the determined delivery form before starting

to deliver the package.

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

receiving a delivery completion notice comprising receiving status data from a computer of the distributor.

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:

giving a predetermined point to the customer member when the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates the delivery has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the determined delivery form.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:

giving a predetermined point to the receiver when the delivery form determined in said determining indicates that delivery to a home of the customer member receiving the package and the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicate that receiving has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the determined delivery form.

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

receiving and registering information regarding a fixed delivery charge from a computer of the distributor after the package is received by the distributor.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, wherein the determined delivery form is determined as that of undeliverable.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

sending the sender of the package a notice comprising information regarding a deliverable date when the delivery form is determined as undeliverable in said determining.

27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim

18, further comprising:

giving a predetermined point to the customer member when the determined delivery form is that of forwarding or keeping the package.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising generating delivery request information addressed to the distributor by using forwarding destination information or keeping place information registered for the customer member in advance, when the determined delivery form is that of forwarding or keeping the package.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

receiving and registering information of a specified customer member from the terminal of the customer member, the specified customer member being different from the customer member, and

wherein when the customer member receiving the package is not available for receiving and the specified customer member is registered by the customer member to receive the package on behalf of the customer member, the schedule information for the specified customer member is referenced.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

when a delivery request to a non-member, who is to receive the package, is received from a terminal of the sender of a package, registering information of the non-member included in the delivery request as provisional customer member information;

sending a customer member registration request to the non-member; and

sending information registered as the provisional customer member information to a terminal of the non-member when membership registration is requested from the terminal of the non-member.

31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, wherein the schedule information is received as a predetermined template selection instruction from the terminal of the customer member.

32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, wherein said determining a delivery form comprises sending a schedule input request to the customer member when the schedule information of the customer member indicates the schedule information is not fixed.

33. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 31, wherein said determining a delivery form comprises sending the sender a notice indicating scheduling in progress.

34. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An apparatus for processing physical distribution information, comprising:
a schedule register, which receives and registers schedule information from a terminal of a customer member, the schedule information corresponding to availability status information of the customer member for receiving a package addressed to a customer member, the schedule information comprising availability status information of the customer member for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period;
a receiver that receives a shipment request from a terminal of a sender of a package;
a determining unit, which determines a delivery form relating to said shipment request with reference to the registered schedule information of the customer member; and
a delivery request generator, which generates delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the determined delivery form when the determined delivery form involves a movement of the package, and
wherein said schedule register operates asynchronously with said determining unit and regardless of a specific shipment request.

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:
a second register, which registers scheduled delivery information in the schedule information of the receiver when the determined delivery form involves a movement of the package.

36. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:
a transmitter, which sends the distributor information regarding the determined delivery

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before starting to deliver the package.

37. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a receiving unit, which receives a delivery completion notice comprising receiving status data from a computer of the distributor.

38. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 37, further comprising:

means for granting a predetermined point to the customer member receiving the package, when the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates the delivery has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the determined delivery form.

39. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 37, further comprising:

means for granting a predetermined point to the customer member receiving the package, when the determined delivery form indicates that delivery to a home of the customer member receiving the package and the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates that receiving has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the determined delivery form.

40. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a receiving unit, which receives and registers information regarding a fixed delivery charge from a computer of the distributor after the package is received by the distributor.

41. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein the determined delivery form is determined as that of undeliverable.

42. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a transmitter, which sends the sender a notice comprising information regarding a deliverable date when the determined delivery form is determined as that of undeliverable.

43. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

means for granting a predetermined point to the customer member receiving the package, when the determined delivery form is that of forwarding or keeping the package.

44. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein, said delivery request generator generates delivery request information addressed to the distributor by using forwarding destination information or keeping place information registered by the customer member in advance, when the determined delivery form is that of forwarding or keeping the package.

45. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a receiving unit, which receives and registers information of a specified customer member from the terminal of the customer member, the specified customer member being different from the customer member, and

wherein, when the customer member receiving the package is not available for receiving and the specified customer member is registered by the customer member to receive the package on behalf of the customer member, said determining unit references the schedule information for the specified customer member.

46. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

means for registering information of a non-member, who is to receive the package, included in a delivery request to the non-member as provisional customer member information when the delivery request to the non-member is received from a terminal of a sender of the package;

a transmitter, which sends a customer member registration request to the non-member; and

a transmitter, which sends information registered as the provisional customer member information to a terminal of the non-member when membership registration is requested from the terminal of the non-member.

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47. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein said schedule register receives the schedule information as a predetermined template selection instruction from the terminal of the customer member.

48. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein said determining unit comprises a transmitter, which sends a schedule input request to the customer member when the schedule information of the customer member indicates the schedule information is not fixed.

49. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein said determining unit comprises a transmitter, which sends the sender a notice indicating scheduling in progress.

50.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:

receiving schedule information for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period, from a member, the schedule information corresponding to availability status of the member for receiving a package addressed to the member;

receiving a shipment request from a sender of a package;

determining a delivery form relating to said shipment request based upon the schedule information received and forwarding the determined delivery form to a sender of the package; and

generating delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the determined delivery form, and

wherein said receiving schedule information is carried out asynchronously with said determining and is carried out without relationship with a specific shipment request.